



COMMANDING GENERAL TRAINING AND EDUCATION COMMAND SAFETY STATEMENT



Our mission at Training and Education Command (TECOM) is to instruct, train, develop, and evaluate recruits, candidates, and Marines in order to prepare them for follow on training, exercises and real world events as they transition to their next duty station. To ensure that Marines and Sailors are prepared to meet the challenges of present and future operational environments. It is our responsibility to educate and train the future leaders of our Corps and return them to the operational and supporting forces safely.

Much of our training impacts Marines and Sailors in the first year of their military service. This is a critical time to influence behavior and set positive patterns of force preservation at the lowest levels. Force preservation is a process of identifying risky behavior, engaging our Marines and Sailors in a two- way exchange, and developing strategies to avoid or mitigate risky behavior. Successful implementation of a force preservation program will ensure a rising generation of Marines and Sailors who recognize risky behavior, the consequences, and the correct behavior necessary to prevent harmful incidents.

Leadership is key to establishing a culture of safety. All levels of the chain of command, from the commanding general to noncommissioned officers, must stress safety to all personnel in their charge and ensure it is incorporated into unit culture. Leaders will ensure risk mitigation is used when training, accomplishing daily tasks and when planning off-duty activities in order to prevent and reduce mishaps. Because off-duty activity impacts on-duty performance, we must also consider safety and risk management during off-duty hours. Pointless losses can be eliminated through effective leadership utilized in the following ways:

- Recognize that inaction is not acceptable.
- Take responsibility and be accountable for yourself and those you lead.
- Hold those you lead to a standard, but first ensure they are trained to that standard.
- Engage those you lead and commit to eliminating behavior that puts them at risk.
- Ensure that all Marines you lead understand that reckless behavior is not tolerated.

It is our inherent duty and obligation to prevent safety mishaps by utilizing risk management, force preservation, training, and leadership to promote safe practices both on and off duty.

Lastly, every decision you make affects not only you, but your loved ones and fellow Marines. We need every Marine to be a safety officer and step up to stop any unsafe activity. In so doing, you are accomplishing the right thing for your unit, the Marine Corps, and most importantly, for your brother and sister Marines. Questions or concerns can be directed to the TECOM Safety Manager at 703-432-5248.

T. M. MURRAY
Major General, U.S. Marine Corps
Training and Education Command